

REMARKS

Claims 1-14 are pending as of the Office Action of October 20, 2008. In this Office Action the Examiner requires Applicant to elect a single invention to which the claims shall be restricted under PCT Rule 13.1.

Particularly, the Examiner identifies:

Group I: Claims 1-13 drawn to an intervertebral disc prosthesis;

Group II: Claim 14 drawn to a method for producing a prosthesis.

In reply to the restriction requirement, Applicants herein elect Group I, Claims 1-13. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the withdrawn claims in a related application(s) without prejudice.

Prosecution on the merits is respectfully requested. The foregoing is believed to be fully responsive to the outstanding Office Action.

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's attorney at the below-listed phone number regarding this Response or otherwise concerning the present application.

Applicant hereby petitions for any necessary extension of time under 37 C.F.R. §§1.136(a) or 1.136(b).

If there are any charges due with respect to this Amendment or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 06-1130 maintained by Applicant's attorneys.

Respectfully submitted,
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Date: December 11, 2008